AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of directing a computer network for booting using an embedded operating system (OS) based computer, the method comprising:

listening with an embedded OS based computer to PXE requests from a plurality of PXE enabled target servers of a computer network; and

providing from the embedded OS based computer to one of the plurality of PXE enabled target servers a netboot program and address information of a boot server responsive to a PXE request from the one of the PXE enabled target servers.

2. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein the computer network comprises a plurality of subnetworks of PXE enabled target servers.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 2, wherein the embedded OS based computer listens to one of the subnetworks.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 3, wherein the embedded OS based computer listens to one of the subnetworks by wireless communication.

5. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein the embedded OS is Windows CE operating system.

6. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein the plurality of PXE enabled target servers are part of a subnetwork of the computer network.

7. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein the listening step is performed through a TCP/IP stack.

8. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein the address information of the boot server comprises an IP address.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 1, further comprising transferring a boot image from the boot server responsive to the netboot program executing on the one of the PXE enabled target servers, the boot image containing code to install at least one of an operating system and application software in the one of the PXE enabled target servers.

10. (Original) The method as in claim 9, wherein the boot image is provided through a router.

11. (Original) The method as in claim 9, wherein the boot image is provided by wireless communication.

12. (Original) The method as in claim 9, wherein the boot image comprises responses to preboot execution environment queries.

13. (Original) The method as in claim 9, wherein the boot image further comprises a script specific to the requesting target server.

14. – 15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The method as in claim 9, wherein the netboot program is executed out of a read-only memory.

17. (Original) The method as in claim 9, wherein the boot image is transferred using a trivial file transfer protocol.

18. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 9, wherein the one of the PXE enabled target servers is booted by executing the boot image.

19. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, further comprising displaying address information for the plurality of PXE enabled target servers.

20. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, further comprising displaying a plurality of boot images for the plurality of PXE enabled target servers.

21. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, further comprising displaying PXE requests for the plurality of PXE enabled target servers.

22. (Previously Presented) An embedded OS based computer for network booting under preboot execution environment (PXE) control, the computer comprising:

a network interface controller (NIC);

an embedded operating system (OS) to control the NIC;

a processor coupled to the NIC;

a processor executable PXE routing software, which is adapted to perform the processor executable steps of:

listening to PXE requests from a plurality of PXE enabled target servers of a computer network; and

providing to one of the plurality of PXE enabled target servers a netboot program and address information of a boot server separate from the embedded OS based computer, in response to a PXE request from the one of the PXE enabled target servers.

23. (Original) The embedded OS based computer as in claim 22, further comprising a display coupled to the processor.

24. (Original) The embedded OS based computer as in claim 22, further comprising an input device coupled to the processor.

25. (Original) The embedded OS based computer as in claim 22, further comprising a memory coupled to the processor.

26. (Previously Presented) The embedded OS based computer as in claim 25, wherein the memory further comprises:

a web browser;

PXE service applications;

a TFTP application;

the netboot program; and

a boot image.

27. (Previously Presented) The embedded OS based computer as in claim 26, wherein the embedded OS based computer is configured through the web browser.

28. (Original) The embedded OS based computer as in claim 25, wherein the embedded OS based computer is configured directly.

29. – 38. (Cancelled)

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein providing the netboot program from the embedded OS based computer comprises providing the netboot program from the embedded OS based computer that is separate from the boot server.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein providing the netboot program to the one of the PXE enabled target servers comprises providing the netboot program that when executed causes the one of the PXE enabled target servers to issue a request to the boot server for a boot image to download to the one of the PXE enabled target servers.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40, further comprising:

receiving, by the embedded OS based computer, the request to the boot server; and

in response to the request, send, by the embedded OS based computer, a Trivial File Transfer Protocol (TFTP) request to the boot server for the boot image.

42. (Previously Presented) The embedded OS based computer of claim 22, wherein the netboot program when executed causes the one of the PXE enabled target servers to issue a request to the boot server for a boot image.

43. (Previously Presented) The embedded OS based computer of claim 42, wherein the boot image comprises a script that includes code to install an operating system on the one of the PXE enabled target servers.

44. (Previously Presented) The embedded OS based computer of claim 22, comprising a handheld computer.

45. (Previously Presented) The embedded OS based computer of claim 22, wherein the embedded OS comprises a Windows CE OS.

46. (Previously Presented) The embedded OS based computer of claim 22, further comprising a display to display address information for the plurality of PXE enabled target servers.

47. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a storage containing software that when executed causes a first computer to:

receive a request from a target server for remote booting of the target server; and

in response to the request, send a program and address information of a boot server to the target server, wherein the boot server is separate from the first computer,

wherein the program when executed causes the target server to issue a boot server request to the boot server for a boot image to download to the target server, the boot image containing code to install at least one of an operating system and application software on the target server.

48. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 47, wherein the software when executed causes the first computer to further:

receive the boot server request; and

in response to the boot server request, issue a Trivial File Transfer Protocol (TFTP) request to the boot server for the boot image.

49. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 47, wherein the first computer comprises an embedded operating system (OS) based computer containing an embedded OS.

50. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 49, wherein the first computer comprises a handheld computer.

51. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 47, wherein the first computer receives the request from the target server by wireless communications.

52. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 47, wherein the received request from the target server comprises a preboot execution environment (PXE) request, the target server being a PXE enabled target server.

53. (Previously Presented) A computer comprising:

a processor;

an embedded operating system (OS) executable on the processor;

software executable on the processor to:

receive a request from a target server; and

in response to the request, send information to the target server to direct the target server to a boot server separate from the computer for downloading a boot image from the boot server to the target server for remote booting of the target server,

wherein the computer is a reduced-capability computer having less capability than a server computer.

54. (Previously Presented) The computer of claim 53, wherein the embedded OS comprises a Windows CE OS.

55. (Previously Presented) The computer of claim 53, further comprising a wireless interface to receive the request wirelessly.

56. (Previously Presented) The computer of claim 53, wherein the received request comprises a preboot execution environment (PXE) request.

57. (Previously Presented) The computer of claim 53, further comprising a display to display address information for plural target servers, and to list boot images for the plural target servers,

the software executable on the processor to:

listen to requests from the plural target servers for remote booting of the target servers.

58. (Previously Presented) The computer of claim 53, wherein the information sent to the target server comprises a netboot program and an address of the boot server.